

A RESOLUTION

03- R-1969

BY COUNCILMEMBER JIM MADDOX

A Resolution requesting that the Georgia General Assembly authorize municipalities with populations of 95,000 or more the opportunity to hold referenda by the citizens of the municipality to designate property identified by the municipality a gambling district.

WHEREAS, Underground Atlanta was developed as a project that would hopefully revitalize the south central business district; and

WHEREAS, Underground Atlanta has received a number of favorable incentives from the City, including the designation of a Retail Incentive Tax Exempt Zone (1998 - 2003) and

WHEREAS, the project has not lived up to its expectations; and

WHEREAS, casino gambling and pari-mutuel betting are flourishing in neighboring states (North Carolina, Alabama, Florida, etc.) and

WHEREAS, much of the entertainment revenue is leaving Georgia and being spent in these states; and

WHEREAS, Underground Atlanta, as a gambling district, would bring much-needed revenue into the City, as well as invigorate the surrounding area.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA include in its 2004 Legislative Package a request that the 2004 Session of the Georgia General Assembly authorize municipalities with populations of 95,000 or more the opportunity to hold referenda by the citizens of the municipality to designate property identified by the municipality a gambling district.